

# St John's School Newsletter

6 Stuart Road  
Ranfurly  
03 4449514 (ph & fax)  
office@sjr.school.nz

Issue 2: 24th February 2017

## Principal's Page:

### Swim Week

A very big thank you to those parents who have helped out with swimming transport this week, especially those who committed every day or most days and several times a day! THANK YOU.

### Swimming Sports

Our swimming sports will be held on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**, beginning at **1p.m.**

Junior children will do their events first.

We will walk to the pool and children will take their school bags with them so they can go home from the pool. The bus will pick up bus children from the pool. Please make sure your child knows if they have to catch the bus after the swimming sports.

We will be asking parents to help out with some jobs at the sports, eg, giving out 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places.

Children will sit in their house groups at the pool and gain points for their house in swimming events.

If possible children need to bring 2 towels – one to sit on or wrap around them between events and one to dry themselves with, at the end of the sports.

### Sports Houses

For the purpose of the swimming sports, and later in the year, Athletic sports, we have randomly put children into 2 houses (apart from children with the surname McAuley!!) See attached list.

The names of the 2 houses are: McAuley House and O'Neill House.

McAuley because Catherine McAuley was the founder of the Sisters of Mercy who established our school, and O'Neill because Bishop Hugh John O'Neill was the Bishop of the Dunedin Diocese at the time our school opened and he blessed the new school on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1945.

### **School Photos**

We get school photos taken every second year and this is the year!

Jack n Jill Photography will be taking class, individual and sibling photos on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March**.

Could you please ensure children are dressed in correct school uniform and are looking neat and tidy for these. Thank you.

### **Lions Club International Peace Poster Competition 2016**

Towards the end of last year the Year 6 – 8 class took part in a Peace Poster Competition and we would like to congratulate:

**Hannah Cormack** who came 3<sup>rd</sup> and **Jeremy Dumapis** and **Kate Kinney** who were highly commended. All of the posters were really great. Well done to the Senior Class.

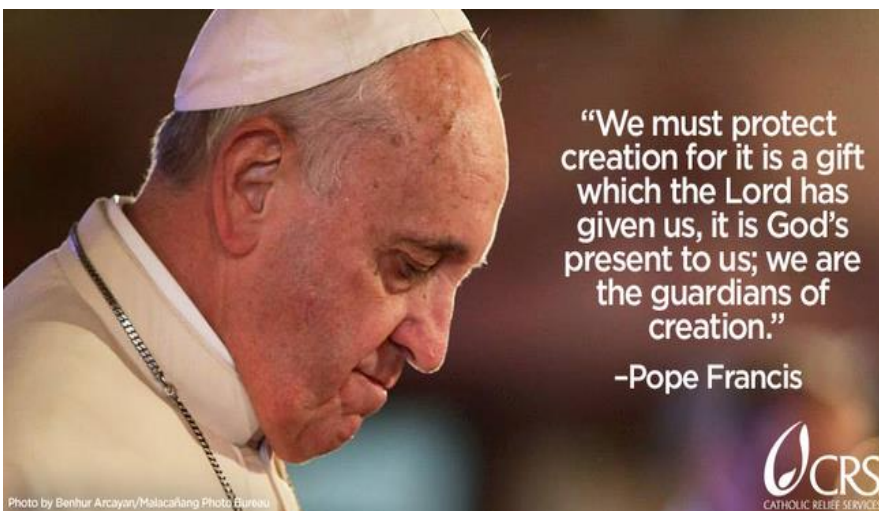
### **A & P Show**

Congratulations to all the children for their great paintings of “Seasons” for the A & P Show. We were very pleased to win the art shield back for 2017!

## **Special Character Clipboard:**

Thank you to all the family members and friends who were able to join us for our opening mass for Term One on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February. Fr Pat McGettigan enjoyed the opportunity to see so many of our school community gathered in prayer and praise.

A new Altar Server and Bell Ringer roster has started this month. Thank you to all the children who come along to take part in mass, and to their families who support them.



## Junior Class News:

Here are some stories about the recent A & P Show:

At the A & P Show I had candy floss. I went on the bouncy castle and I went on the waterslide. It was fun because I did a back flip. We had hot chips and that night we did fireworks and in the morning there were presents.

By Hamish McIntyre

At the A & P Show I bought some food and some toys. I had to go to the train. It was flat and I was in the front and I honked the horn.

By Shannlee Fetalver

*At the A & P Show I went in the parade. I went in the Landcruiser and Emmett drove.*

*By George Dowling*

At the A & P Show I went on the mini train. It was fun. I had some Candy floss and at the end I went in the red tractor.

By Logan Suddaby

At the A & P Show I got a Mr Whippy. It was a hokey pokey one with sprinkles. It was scrumptious.

By Josie Herlihy

## Middle Class News:

We are a very busy classroom at the moment, learning new routines, setting goals and agreeing on our 2017 classroom guidelines (helped by some cheeky Minions!)



The Middle class did a wonderful job last week of writing the Prayers of the Faithful for our school mass. We worked co-operatively in groups, sharing our ideas, and then decided who would represent each of the groups, by reading the prayers at mass. It was great to have this personal input into the content of our Eucharistic celebration.

We visited the newly arranged school library for the first time this week. We will be using the library on a regular basis, and Monday will be the day each week that children can return their books, and have new ones issued to them. Thank you to Mrs Duncan, Mrs Mulholland, Mrs Hazlett and Mrs H. Dowling who all helped shift the books into their new spot. We really LOVE IT 😊



### Missing Jersey

A jersey belonging to Fred Dowling is missing. It has his name on it so please check your child's jersey and return it, if someone has it by mistake. Thanks

## Senior Class News:



### Never say "I can't" always say "I'll try"

We are feeling water logged at this end of the week, after completing ten lessons for 'Swim Week'. The children have worked hard at improving their swim skills, and I am impressed with their determination and resilience towards what can be quite a daunting and challenging task. Thanks for all of the help with transport, although my children are quite capable of walking ... it is always nice to be able to have a quick lift down to the pool and back.

Hopefully you all were able to look at the childrens art at the A&P Show. The artwork looked amazing, and we did very well (we won the School Shield), and it is on display at the back of our classroom. Thankyou very much to Ro Kinney who gave up her time to come in and work with the senior children and to teach them specific art skills. You are very talented Ro, and we appreciate you sharing your talents with us.

With the completion of our show art, we are now settling into our normal daily routines at school and every child is working hard to improve their learning. Homework is now in place and thankyou for supporting your children with this. Each child has to achieve 1000 points a week in Mathletics, and I have explained that they are able to use the laptops at school to do this if they don't have access to the internet outside of school time. Ask your child to explain to you what we are planning to do with our reading pages (helpful hint: reading pages become travelling kilometres).

Our 'Girls Smash' cricketers have been enjoying playing in the competition in Alexandra on Mondays after school. They are having a lot of fun, and building their basic skills, which is great. You might see them wearing their bright pink tee shirts which were given to them by Otago Cricket. Thankyou very much to my travelling parents, and to Steve Cormack for popping in and coaching the girls ...and teaching them how to do press ups!

Andrew and Billy have been playing for a Maniototo year 7/8 cricket team in the NZ Post Cup 20/20 cricket competition. They had a game in Naseby on Tuesday which unfortunately they lost, but they enjoyed the experience.

The Central Otago Schools Triathlon is on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. This is a run, bike, swim event open to children aged from year 5-8. It can be completed as a team or individual. I will be sending home information regarding this in the next few weeks. So its time to getting working on our fitness ☺ so we can enjoy this event.

Our class has been invited to watch The Ugly Shakespeare Company present 'The Merchant of Venice' next Tuesday at MAS. The class will be going to this with Mrs Hazlett. As it starts at 9am, bus children will wait at the Area School for her, and the rest of the class will walk up with Mrs Hazlett from St Johns. They will leave here at 8.45am. This means the HPV informative chat with the year 8 children (and interested parents) will now be held at a later date. I will let you know when Mrs Stringer confirms this with me.

Jewellery – please discourage your child from wearing jewellery to school. There is potential for it to be lost or damaged, and bracelets can be annoying on the desk when writing.

Finally, we started the year creating a recipe for success in maths. I have shared Freddie Hore's with you (as he won the Cadburys Chocolate Baking Prize at the A & P Show)... Maths is not all hard work 😊

Thank you

Mrs Duncan 😊

## Freddie's Maths Brownie

...

### INGREDIENTS

Recipe

3C Awake Brain  
2C Writing Tools  
2C Calculator  
1/2C Ears That Listen  
10oz Times tables  
6oz Protractor  
5oz Positive Attitude  
4oz Memory  
4oz Athletics  
2T Neatness  
1t Determination  
3 drops of Computer  
1 drop of Challenge  
1 sprinkle Vocabulary  
1 dash Organisation  
1 pinch Compass

...

### METHOD

...

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C
2. In a large bowl mix together the awake brain, writing tools, protractor and times tables.
3. Mix in the determination and organisation until creamy.
4. In another bowl mix together the Calculator, Positive Attitude, Memory and Athletics.
5. Mix in the Neatness and Vocabulary until combined well.
6. In a smaller bowl mix the Computer, Challenges and Compass with a fork.
7. Stir all of the mixtures together in a large bowl.
8. Pour into a 5cm deep baking pan and cook for 15-20 minutes.
9. Dust with ears that listen and serve 😊😊

## Board of Trustees

\*At our February meeting, a discussion was made to purchase 4 new apple laptops and 10 ipad minis to be used in the Middle Class.

Because of class sizes the 10 laptops the Middle Class currently have, will move into the Senior Class.

We would like to acknowledge a very generous donation of \$5000 from Dairy Farm Partnership, specifically earmarked for technology.

We were blown away by this – it is fantastic and has really helped us to quickly make the decision to purchase more devices so that Seniors can have access to more individual laptops.

Thank you very much to Dairy Farm Partnership.

\*The school is in the early stages of using a new School Management System called “The Edge” for student records. At the moment we are using it daily to mark attendance but as we get more training we will use it for a lot more.

\*Staff will be part of a professional development group working on “Accelerated Literacy Learning” for 2017. This will help us focus on reading and writing, and improving our teaching in these curriculum areas.

## Notices and Dates:

<b>Week 5</b>	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Ash Wednesday, beginning of the Church season of Lent
<b>Week 6</b>	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	School photos
<b>Week 8</b>	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Otago Anniversary Day – School closed.
	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Central Otago Schools Triathlon

## Free Books for School

We are participating in a promotion with Kellogg's and New World. This promotion runs from 1 January – 31 March 2017. If you buy a Kellogg's product and drop your receipt into the box marked St John's School at Alexandra New World, for every two Kellogg's products we get a free book.

